

REMARKS

Claims 1-60 are pending in the application. Claims 13-14 and 17-20 are hereby amended. Claims 1-12, 15-16, and 21-53 are canceled. Claims 54-60 were allowed and remain as originally presented.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant has included with this response a proper information disclosure statement in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98. Applicant has also submitted with this response copies of all the possible references listed on the IDS that are presently available.

Oath/Declaration

Applicant has included with this response an application data sheet to identify the mailing address of each inventor as requested by the Office Action.

Drawings

Applicant has amended the horizontal axis title of all 6 graphs pictured in FIG. 3 from "WAVE NUMBERS [cm^2]" to "WAVE FREQUENCY [cm^{-1}]". No new matter is presented by amended FIG. 3. Page 15 of the Specification contains support for amended FIG. 3.

Specification

Applicant has amended the Abstract to reduce the number of words to less than 150 words and to clearly and concisely describe the patent.

By deleting all the text from page 3, line 28 to page 7, line 11, applicant has deleted the embedded hyperlinks and/or other forms of browser-executable code objected to in the Office Action.

Claim Objections

Claims 18, 19, 21, 22, and 37 were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant has canceled claims 22 and 37. Applicant has amended claims 17, 18, 19, and 20 to now read in independent form. Claim 17 incorporates the limitations of canceled claim 16.

Claim 18 incorporates the limitations of canceled claim 16 as well as the limitations of original claim 17. Claim 19 incorporates the limitations of canceled claim 16 as well as original claim 17.

Rejections Based on 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claim 53 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,543,481 (Zwick). Applicant has canceled claim 53.

Rejections Based on 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-12, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sandsten (2000) in view of Zwick and Moore. Applicant has canceled claims 1-12, 15, and 16.

Claims 24-30, 32-37, and 38-52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sandsten in view of Zwick. Applicant has canceled claims 24-30, 32-37, and 38-52.

Claim 31 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sandsten and Zwick and further in view of Moore. Applicant has canceled claims 31.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges that claims 54-60 were allowed.

Claims 13, 14, and 17-22 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 13 was amended to incorporate the limitations of canceled claim 1 and is now written in independent form. Claim 14 was also amended to incorporate the limitations of canceled claim 1 and is now written in independent form. Applicant has amended claims 17, 18, 19, and 20 to now read in independent form. Claim 17 incorporates the limitations of canceled claim 16. Claim 18 incorporates the limitations of canceled claim 16 as well as the limitations of original claim 17. Claim 19 incorporates the limitations of canceled claim 16 as well as original claim 17.

CONCLUSION

The claims in their present form are allowable over the art of record. Applicant therefore solicits their allowance. Any fees in addition to those submitted may be charged to deposit account 21-0765.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9-25-03

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Roche', written over a horizontal line.

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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